

Message Text

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65

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 EUR-12 IO-13 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01

AID-05 /100 W

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P R 301900Z APR 76

FM AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3637

INFO AMCONSUL BELEM

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL PORTO ALEGRE

AMCONSUL RECIFE

AMCONSUL SALVADOR

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : ELAB BR UK

SUBJECT : INTERNATIONAL CHEMICAL WORKERS (ICF) RELATIONS
WITH BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT

1. INTERNATIONAL CHEMICAL AND GENERAL WORKER'S UNION (ICF) HAS,
WITH BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT PERMISSION, MAINTAINED OFFICE AND
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE FOR ALL OF LATIN AMERICA IN RIO DE
JANEIRO SINCE 1967. ICF REPRESENTATIVE, HERBERT KEMMSIES,
IS US CITIZEN BORN IN GERMANY BROUGHT UP IN BRAZIL WITH ENGIN-
EERING DEGREE FROM US UNIVERSITY. ICF SIGNED UP SOLE BRAZILIAN
AFFILIATE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF ELECTRIC POWER WORKERS (FNTIU)
1970. FNTIU, HOWEVER, ABRUPTLY SUSPENDED AFFILIATION AND
STOPPED PAYMENT PER CAPITA TAX IN 1973, IN ORDER TO RE-
EVALUATE OVERALL GOB ATTITUDE VIS-A-VIS INTERNATIONAL AFFILIA-
TIONS. IN APRIL 1974, GOB (I.E., MINISTRY OF LABOR) DISAPPROVED
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AN AFFILIATION REQUEST WITH ICF ON THE PART OF RIO DE JANEIRO

PERFUME WORKER'S LOCAL UNION.

2. IN RECENT WEEKS KEMMSIES HAS REPORTED THAT POWERFUL SAO PAULO STATE FEDERATION OF CHEMICAL WORKERS HAS TAKEN FAVORABLE EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTION ON ICF AFFILIATION AND WILL REQUEST GOB APPROVAL. KEMMSIES ALSO REQUESTED LABOR ATTACHE'S ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING MEETING WITH LABOR MINISTER ARMALDO DA COSTA PRIETO WHOM KEMMSIES FELT HAD BEEN DELIBERATELY AVOIDING SUCH A MEETING. IN RESPONSE TO KEMMSIES REQUEST, LABOR ATTACHE DISCUSSED ISSUE WITH DR PAULO SANTOS, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, MINISTRY OF LABOR RIO DE JANEIRO WHO SAID MINISTER PRIETO IS "STUDYING" KEMMSIES REQUEST BUT BECAUSE OF MINISTER'S HEAVY SCHEDULE NOT LIKELY TO BE GRANTED IN NEAR FUTURE.

3. DR SANTOS ALSO TOLD LABOR ATTACHE GOB DOES NOT LOOK WITH FAVOR ON BRAZILIAN TRADE UNION CONTACTS WITH EUROPEAN BASED INTERNATIONAL TRADE SECRETARIATS (ITS) AS GOB FEELS THEY ARE "SOCIALIST" ORIENTED AND REGARDED AS BEING "SOFT" ON COMMUNISM AND ALSO IN DEALING WITH IRON CURTAIN AND SOVIET WORLD FEDERATION TRADE UNIONS (WFTU). KEMMSIES ALSO REQUESTED BRITISH SUPPORT AND DR SANTOS REPORTED BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL HAS MADE INQUIRIES OF LABOR MINISTRY REGARDING STATUS OF KEMMSIES' REQUEST TO MEET WITH LABOR MINISTER. BRITISH CONSULATE REPORTS INTERVENTION MADE IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST FROM A LABOR PARTY MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.

4. MANY ITS'S HAVE (#)
AN UNION AFFILIATES, I.E., PTTI,
IMF, IFCCTE, ITF, ETC. NONE, HOWEVER, (#)

STATIONED IN BRAZIL SINCE 1968 WHEN GOB ISSUED REGULATIONS REQUIRING PRIOR APPROVAL FOR ITS'S TO MAINTAIN OFFICE REPRESENTATIVES. THERE IS ALSO LITTLE DOUBT THAT ITS ACTIVITIES IN BRAZIL ARE CLOSELY MONITORED.

5. THE ISSUE IS FURTHER COMPLICATED AS ARY CAMPISTA, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF INDUSTRIAL WORKERS (CNTI), BRAZIL'S LARGEST AND MOST IMPORTANT CONFEDERATION, CONSIDERS KEMMSIES AN ENEMY AND A THREAT TO CAMPISTA'S HEGEMONY IN CHEMICAL WORKER UNIONS, CAMPISTA'S TRADE UNION ORGANIZATION BASE. CAMPISTA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IS ALSO AND INTIMATE FRIEND AND UNOFFICIAL TRADE UNION ADVISOR TO GEN (RET) GOLBERY DO COUTO E SILFA, CHIEF OF PRESIDENT'S CIVILIAN HOUSEHOLD.
FRECHETTE

NOTE BY OC/T: (#) OMISSION CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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